

MULTI-VERSIONING IN A DISTRIBUTED NETWORK

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 A method and apparatus enabling migration of clients to a specific version of a server-hosted application, where multiple software versions of the server-hosted application are installed on the network, such that clients using the application experience minimal downtime related to upgrades and revisions of the application. When a new version of the application is to be deployed, a selected small portion of the clients is directed to the new version, to verify the functionality of that version, while the remaining clients use the previous version. If problems are discovered in the new version, the upgrade is terminated without impacting all of the clients. A register retains the identity of the clients and the version of the software with which each client is associated. The direction of the selected portion of clients to the new version of the software is done in a manner that can be completely transparent to the clients.

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